

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 24 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Thursday 25 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 23 Mar 2021 at 15:45

Confidence: High for the showery pattern, also for risk of longer periods of rain later in the period, but confidence gradually lowering for the detail of the worst of the conditions.

Headline for Wednesday 24 Mar 2021: Showers, most of these later in the day.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 24 Mar 2021

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Gales

Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy Snow

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Poor visibility

Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight

Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Light rain	Light rain	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Light rain showers	Light rain showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
70%	30%	<05%	<05%	10%	10%	30%	40%

Forecast for Wednesday 24 Mar 2021

Weather: Cloudy with periods of patchy rain at first overnight, which clears to east before dawn. Sunshine and showers for Wednesday with outbreaks isolated through to mid-afternoon, becoming occasional and perhaps heavy at times late afternoon and early evening, before dwindling late evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% plus through much of the day, becoming 70% from late afternoon.

Visibility: Generally good or very good, becoming moderate or poor in showers and very poor in cloud with bases mostly above summits, lowering 500-700m in showers, chiefly from late afternoon.

Forecast for Wednesday 24 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	26/32 SW	21/26 SW	25/32 SW	28/37 SW	27/38 SW	26/37 SW	35/46 SW	32/43 SW	26/35 SW
600	22/29 SW	17/24 SW	20/27 SW	25/34 SW	25/37 SW	25/36 SW	26/38 SW	26/37 SW	21/31 SW
300	9/24 W	6/19 W	8/22 SW	12/28 SW	13/30 SW	13/30 SW	11/29 SW	12/30 SW	10/25 SW
Valley	10/23 SW	7/18 W	9/21 SW	14/28 SW	15/29 SW	14/27 SW	11/26 SW	14/28 SW	12/24 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	2/-4	0/-6	-0/-7	0/-8	0/-7	1/-6	1/-7	1/-6	1/-6
600	4/-2	2/-3	2/-4	2/-4	3/-3	4/-3	3/-3	3/-3	3/-3
300	6/3	4/2	4/0	5/2	6/3	7/3	6/2	5/2	5/2
Valley	8/5	6/4	6/3	8/4	8/5	8/5	8/5	7/4	7/4
Freezing Level*	1100m	800m	800m	800m	800m	800m	1000m	1100m	1100m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

Significant wind chill at height.

Forecast for Thursday 25 Mar 2021

Weather: Further sunshine and showers, with outbreaks mainly focused across western ranges, with some in the east escaping dry.

Maximum wind: West or southwest 25 mph with gusts 35 mph, increasing 35 gusts 45-50 mph late in the day.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90%

Visibility: Generally good or very good, becoming moderate or poor in showers and very poor in cloud with bases mostly above summits, lowering 500-700m in showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 1 Celsius increasing 13 Celsius during the afternoon

At 800m: Plus 2 Celsius

Freezing level: Just above summits

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 23 March 2021 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:20 Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. The thaw continues, albeit at an extremely slow rate owing to the location and height of the remaining snow combined with a summit temperature at midday only marginally above freezing. The remaining snow lies above 700m in isolated sheltered spots and hollows with the vast majority above 850m predominantly, but not exclusively, on north and east facing aspects. Although overnight temperatures at altitude may have dipped below freezing, there was no indication today of a hard overnight frost. However, the vast majority of the Lake District's paths and fells are now clear of snow. As has been the case for almost a week now, the only unavoidable snow encountered today was at the exits to Swirral and especially Striding Edge. Swirral's is only a step or two whereas there is a steep and deep (over 60cm) bank of snow guarding Striding's exit. Today this was relatively soft snow; however it would only take a marginal drop in temperature (currently forecast overnight) for this to harden and become icy. Owing to the potential serious consequences of a slip here without the means to stop yourself with an immediate ice axe arrest, an ice axe is essential for anyone attempting Striding Edge and it is recommended to also carry crampons. There are small cornices above, again mainly but not exclusively, N and E facing slopes over 850m in altitude. Although most have slumped and are small, they are extremely unstable so please keep off the snow near such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Despite the multitude of daffodils in the valleys, winter conditions still exist on the high fells with a summit wind chill at midday of minus 10 degrees C, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. Please be conservative with your plans and know both your limits and also when to turn back. A pandemic is not the time to be pushing your comfort zone. Temperature: plus 0.5 C Maximum wind speed 44.0 mph Wind chill: minus 9.8 C Average wind speed: 35.6 mph Issued at: 1545 on Tue 23 Mar 2021